

Message Text

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73

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

NIC-01 AID-05 /062 W

----- 095372

R 180212Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4202

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CH US CB

SUBJ: NCNA CONDEMNS USG ON CAMBODIA

1. IN A STRONGLY -WORDED CORRESPONDENT'S ARTICLE MARCH 16, NCNA CONDEMNED THE "USG'S STUBBORN STAND OF PERSISTING IN INTERFERENCE AND COMMITTING AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIA". CHARACTERIZING THE LON NOL CLIQUE AS BEING ON "THE BRINK OF COLLAPSE" AND THE US AIRLIFT AS "FACING GREAT DIFFICULTIES", THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT "MANY CONGRESSMAN HAVE OPENLY OPPOSED" ADDITIONAL CAMBODIAN AID.

2. THE ARTICLE QUOTED REMARKS BY PRESIDENT FORD ON MARCH 6 AND PRESS SECRETARY NESSEN ON MARCH 12 WHICH TIED ADDITIONAL AID TO THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATIONS. BOTH STATEMENTS ARE SAID TO OPPOSE US ATTEMPTS TO " PREVENT THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE FROM WINNING IT ALL MILITARILY". THE ARTICLE QUOTES SIHANOUK AND THE SECOND NATIONAL CONGRESS ON REFUSING TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE "PHNOM PENH QUISLINGS".

3. COMMENT: PRC MEDIA RARELY CARRIES DIRECT QUOTES OF
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THE PRESIDENT AND THIS IS THE FIRST WE HAVE NOTED IN CON-

NECTION WITH CAMBODIA FOR A LONG TIME. ALTHOUGH THE ARTICLE
CONTAINS A STRONG CONDEMNATION OF THE USG POSITION IN
CAMBODIA, IT COMES THE DAY FATER IENG SARY DEPARTED PEKING FOR
HOME AND IT COULD BE CONSIDERED THE LEAST THE PRC COULD DO IN
PUBLIC SUPPORT OF THE CURRENT GRUNK EFFORT. NOTABLE ALSO IS,
THE ARTICLE'S EVEN-HANDED ATTENTION TO SIHANOUK AND KHIEU SAMPHAN,
EACH OF WHOM RECEIVED A PARAGRAPH ON THEIR VIEWS ON THE IMPOSSI-
BILITY OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE "LON NOL TRAITORS". DESPITE THE
CONDEMNATION OF THE US ROLE, THE ARTICLE DOES NOT CALL FOR A
DISCONTINUATION OF US SUPPORT FOR CAMBODIA , BUT , RATHER,
ECLLARES THAT SUCH SSISTANCE (INCLUDING US HOPES FOR NEGOTIATIONS)
IS FUTILE.
CROSS

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